

...and look what I did for them!



"I surprise my friends by out-lifting them."
D.P., Ind.



"Have put
3½" on chest
(normal), 2½"
expanded."
—F. S. N. Y.

Send me—absolutely FREE—a copy of your famous book, "Ever-
lasting Strength"—32 pages, crammed with actual photo-
graphs of health questions, and valuable advice to
build a better build. I understand this book is mine
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"DYNAMIC TENSION!" That's the ticket! The identical natural method that changed me from 97-lb. weakling to the world's champion! Thousands are becoming marvelous physical specimens — my way. No gadgets or contraptions. You simply use the **DORMANT** muscle-power in your own God-given

This book is a real prize for any fellow who wants a better build. Yet I'll send you a copy absolutely FREE. Just glancing through it may mean the turning point in your whole life! Rush coupon to me personally: Charles Atlas, Dept. 60R, 115 East 23rd St., N. Y. 10, N. Y.



**SILVER CUP
GIVEN AWAY**
Over a foot high!
Will be given to
pupil who makes
greatest physical
improvement in next
3 months.

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Cutler

Awarded the title of "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" in an international contest.

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Send me—absolutely FREE—a copy of your famous book, "Everlasting Health and Strength"—32 pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. I understand this book is mine to keep, and sending for it does not obligate me in any way.

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City _____ State _____

☐ If under 14 years of age, check here for Booklet A.

AMAZING NEW WAY TO A SLIMMER FIGURE

REDUCE WITH DELICIOUS KELPIDINE CANDY PLAN!

"WE GUARANTEE YOU WILL LOSE UP TO 5 POUNDS IN 5 DAYS* 10 POUNDS IN 10 DAYS* 15 POUNDS IN 15 DAYS* 25 POUNDS IN 25 DAYS* AND KEEP IT OFF" **

*How Fast You Lose Weight Depends Upon How Quickly You Order and How Much You Are Overweight

**You Will Always Want to Keep on Eating Kelpidine Candy—and Keep on the Plan—it KEEPS Weight Off!

THIS CANDY MUST TASTE AS GOOD AS OR BETTER THAN YOUR FAVORITE CANDY OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Now at last science has discovered a new delightfully thrilling way to take off fat—to lose up to 25 lbs. safely! The secret is that Kelpidine Candy satisfies your craving for high calorie foods! It keeps you from overeating—the reason most doctors give for being fat! It's the best aid to will power, cuts your craving for foods!

take off up to 10 pounds of excess weight in 10 days. (2) to taste better or as good as your favorite candy and to be the best plan you ever followed or you get your money back.



SCIENTIFICALLY AND CLINICALLY TESTED!

That amazing ingredient in Kelpidine candy is the most remarkable discovery for fat people ever made. It's been tested by doctors in test-after-test. The results were far better than doctors ever hoped for! The results were reported in medical journals throughout the world! Doctors are invited to write for details.

HERE'S HOW TO REDUCE AND STAY SLIM!

Most people are fat because of overeating—too much high calorie fattening foods—to your amazement you will want to keep on eating this delicious candy even after you have reduced to the weight that most becomes you and you'll keep your weight off that way!

AMAZING DISCOVERY OF SCIENCE!

The Kelpidine Candy plan is the result of scientific research for years for a new discovery for something that will stop your craving for fattening food and also satisfy your appetite. This delicious candy does not turn into ugly fat, it gives you the same feeling of fullness you have after you have eaten a satisfying meal. It kills your desire to overeat—it kills your craving for bedtime snacks and for in-between meal snacks. It's so safe even a child

IT'S UNHEALTHY TO BE FAT!

Insurance companies and doctors tell everyone that too much fat shortens your life! Fat people die years sooner than people with normal weight! So be safe! Be fair to yourself! Start taking off ugly fat with delicious tasting Kelpidine Candy plan!

can take it without bad effects. With Kelpidine Candy all you taste is its deliciousness—you can't tell the difference!

KELPIDINE CANDY IS DIFFERENT!

The amazing clinical tested and proven substance contained in Kelpidine Candy is prescribed by many doctors—Don't be misled by imitation products—Kelpidine Candy is the result of scientific research and is the last word in Reducing.

DON'T CUT OUT FOODS CUT DOWN ON CALORIES!**

You never starve, you always feel full with Kelpidine Candy plan—You'll never suffer hunger pangs—Your desire for high calorie fattening foods is always satisfied! With Kelpidine Candy Plan you eat the same quantity of foods—you merely cut down on the high calorie rich foods with the help of Kelpidine Candy. You eat as much as you want, your calorie intake will be less—That's the delightful amazing thing!

YOU GET A LIBERAL SUPPLY OF CANDY!

Try the liberal supply of Kelpidine Candy Plan on our 10-day no risk offer. Keep a record of your weight—if you are not pleased with your loss of weight, if you can taste any difference between this candy and your favorite candy—return for refund. Just fill out coupon and mail to AMERICAN HEALTHAIDS CO., Dept. K-24 Candy Division, 318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

You must be entirely satisfied with your loss of weight—This candy must taste as good as or better than your favorite candy—You must get rid of dangerous excess fat or your money will be refunded—Don't delay—You have nothing to lose but excess weight so mail coupon below now!



THIS CAN HAPPEN TO YOU!

WITH THIS DELICIOUS REDUCING CANDY PLAN!

Let this delicious candy plan help you control your desire for fattening food! Let it help you put a stop to the habit of overeating—A habit that's so hard to break! Kelpidine candy contains that new discovery many doctors prescribe to help curb your desire to overeat (the main cause of overweight).

\$1.00 TRIAL SIZE!

CUT OUT AND MAIL—NO RISK COUPON NOW!

AMERICAN HEALTHAIDS COMPANY, Dept. K-242

Candy Division,
318 Market Street, Newark, New Jersey

- ☐ I enclose \$1.00, send trial size, postage pre-paid!
- ☐ Rush a Liberal Supply of Kelpidine Candy plan. I enclose \$3.00, send postage pre-paid. (I save up to 75c postage by sending payment with order.)
- ☐ Rush a Large Economy Supply of Kelpidine Candy. I enclose \$5.00, send postage pre-paid. (I save up to 90c postage by sending payment with order.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ Sent on Approval

SENSATIONAL TWO-WAY GUARANTEE!

This sweet delicious Kelpidine Candy plan is guaranteed (1) to



ATLAS
BLACK KNIGHT

THE GREATEST KNIGHT OF THEM ALL!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

MAY

10c

Black Knight

STRIKE, BLACK BLADE! THE BLACK KNIGHT
CHALLENGES MODRED THE EVIL!

THRILLS
FROM
KING ARTHUR
AND HIS
KNIGHTS
OF THE
ROUND
TABLE!

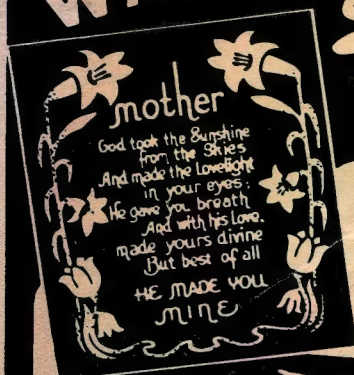
SHARE
THE THRILLS
WHEN
"THE
BLACK
KNIGHT
RIDES!"

SEE
THE BLACK
KNIGHT
COMBAT
MODRED THE EVIL
IN
"THE ABDUCTION
OF KING ARTHUR!"

ALSO "THE CRUSADER" IN THIS GREAT ISSUE!

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SEND US NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35¢ each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25¢ for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP \$2.⁵⁰

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP \$3.⁰⁰

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP \$4.⁰⁰

REMEMBER:

No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottoes you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.



STEPHENS CREDIT SALES

Dept. M-4 P. O. Box 1004

Nashville 3, Tennessee

Black Knight

BLACK KNIGHT #1

Stokely
and
Joe Manely

"THE
MENACE
OF
MODRED
THE EVIL!"



OUT OF THE LEGENDS OF KING ARTHUR AND THE VALIANT KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE... OUT OF THE COLORFUL DAYS OF OLD, WHEN KNIGHTHOOD WAS IN FLOWER... OUT OF THE GLAMOR, ROMANCE, AND HIGH ADVENTURE OF THE THRILLING CRUSADES... COME THESE ACTION-PACKED TALES OF THE GREATEST KNIGHT OF THEM ALL! AND NOW, PREPARE TO RIDE INTO DARING COMBAT WITH
THE BLACK KNIGHT!

THEY WERE **MEN** IN THOSE DAYS! STRONG MEN, FEARLESS MEN, FIGHTING MEN! MEN SUCH AS LANCELOT, THE KING'S RIGHT HAND...

MEN SUCH AS **GALAHAD**, WHOSE NAME HAS LIVED THRU THE AGES AS A SYNONYM FOR GALLANTRY AND VALOR!

SUCH MEN AS MERLIN... THE WISEST OF MAGICIANS... GUARDIAN OF A THOUSAND MYSTIC SECRETS... ADVISOR TO THE KING!

THE SIEGE IS WON! THE ROMANS HAVE CROSSED THE CHANNEL!

HERE IS THE KNAVE WHO DARED PROFANE THE SOIL OF CAMELOT WITH HIS LAWLESS PLUNDER!

A TIME OF CRISIS IS UPON US! EVIL IS ALL ABOUT! ONLY THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE STAND BETWEEN BRITAIN AND DISASTER!



YES, EVEN MEN SUCH AS MODRED, NEPHEW OF THE KING! THE MOST SINISTER, TREACHEROUS LORD IN THE REALM! A SERPENT POISED TO STRIKE AT THE HEART OF THE KINGDOM!

BUT OVERSHADOWING THEM ALL, AS SUNLIGHT OVERSHADOWS A CANDLE, WAS THE NOBLE, UNFORGETTABLE FIGURE OF ARTHUR PENDRAGON, SON OF UTHUR, MONARCH OF THE REALM... MASTER OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE!

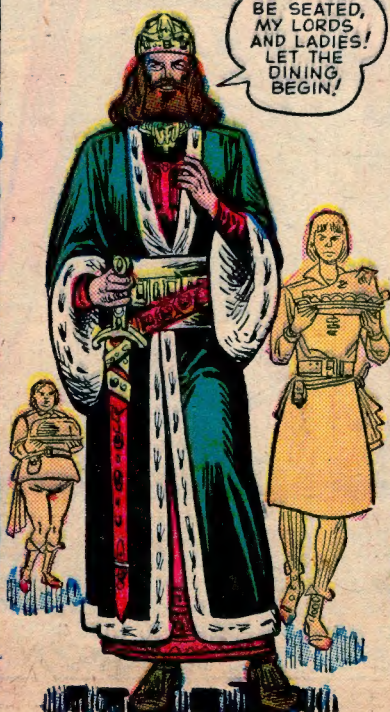
ERE THE VENISON HAD BEEN SERVED, A CRY WAS HEARD FROM THE SENTRY AT THE WATCHTOWER!

MORGAN LE FEY, MY WIFE... ERE ANOTHER FULL MOON HAS COME AND GONE, THE BANNER OF MODRED SHALL FLY OVER THE SPIRES OF CAMELOT!

HUSH YOU, MY LORD! THE KING APPROACHES!

BE SEATED, MY LORDS AND LADIES! LET THE DINING BEGIN!

SOUND THE ALARM! HORSEMEN APPROACH!



IN A FEW FLEET SECONDS, THE PORTCULLIS WAS DROPPED WITH AN EAR-SHATTERING CLAMOR!



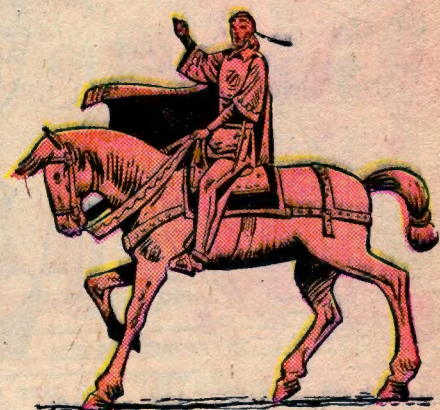
THE ARCHERS TOOK THEIR POSITIONS AROUND THE BASTIONS, PEERING THRU THE CRENELS!



WHAT CAN THIS MEAN?
IT ISN'T YET TIME! I
SIGNALLLED NO ATTACK!

BUT HOLD, MY LORD! IT'S NO ATTACK!
SEE? IT IS YOUR COUSIN PERCY!
WHAT CAN HE WANT HERE?

OPEN YON PORTCULLIS! SEE YOU NOT THE
STANDARD OF PERCY OF SCANDIA? MAKE WAY
FOR THE KINSMAN OF SIR MODRED!



WHAT IS THIS, MY
KNIGHT? WE KNEW
NOTHING OF A
KINSMAN OF
YOURS!

IF MY LIEGE PLEASES,
I WAS LOATHE TO
SPEAK OF HIM! THOUGH
HE BE OF MY BLOOD,
HE'S A WEAKLING AND
A COWARD!

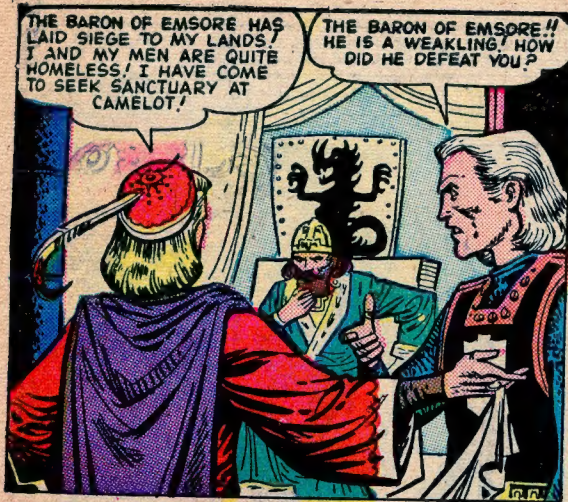


MY LORDS, MY SOVEREIGN...
I HAVE COME TO CLAIM
A BOON!

SPEAK, SIR!

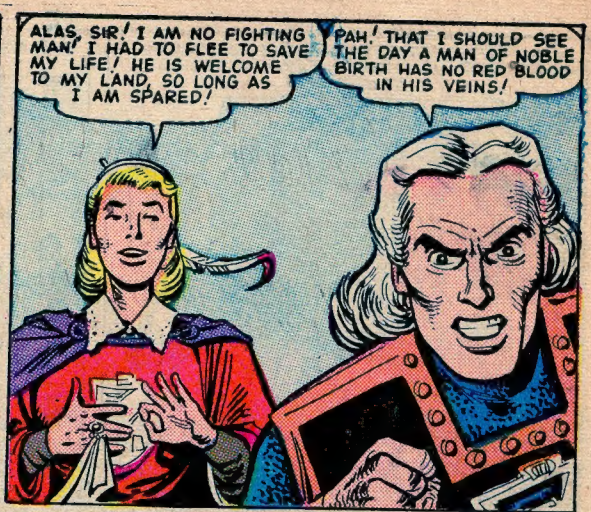
HE HAS THE BUILD OF A MAN
OF ACTION, METHINKS... YET
HOW OFTEN DO OUR EYES
DECEIVE US?





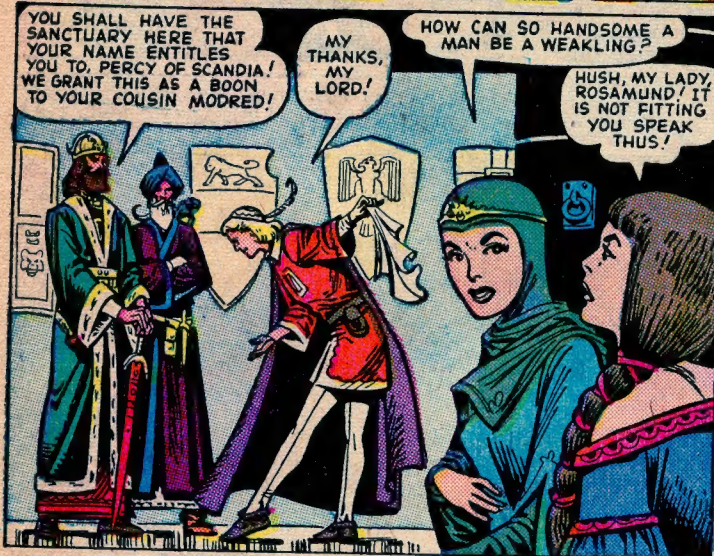
THE BARON OF EMSORE HAS LAID SIEGE TO MY LANDS. I AND MY MEN ARE QUITE HOMELESS. I HAVE COME TO SEEK SANCTUARY AT CAMELOT!

THE BARON OF EMSORE!! HE IS A WEAKLING! HOW DID HE DEFEAT YOU?



ALAS, SIR! I AM NO FIGHTING MAN! I HAD TO FLEE TO SAVE MY LIFE! HE IS WELCOME TO MY LAND, SO LONG AS I AM SPARED!

PAH! THAT I SHOULD SEE THE DAY A MAN OF NOBLE BIRTH HAS NO RED BLOOD IN HIS VEINS!



YOU SHALL HAVE THE SANCTUARY HERE THAT YOUR NAME ENTITLES YOU TO, PERCY OF SCANDIA! WE GRANT THIS AS A BOON TO YOUR COUSIN MODRED!

MY THANKS, MY LORD!

HOW CAN SO HANDSOME A MAN BE A WEAKLING?

HUSH, MY LADY, ROSAMUND! IT IS NOT FITTING YOU SPEAK THUS!



I SHALL SHOW HIM TO HIS QUARTERS!

THANK YOU, WISE MERLIN! WE COULD NOT ASK A BRAVE KNIGHT TO PERFORM SO DISTASTEFUL AN ACT!



YOU WILL BE QUARTERED DOWN NEAR THE SUPPLY CHAMBERS... WHERE THE SOUND OF BATTLE WILL NOT DISTURB YOUR EARS!

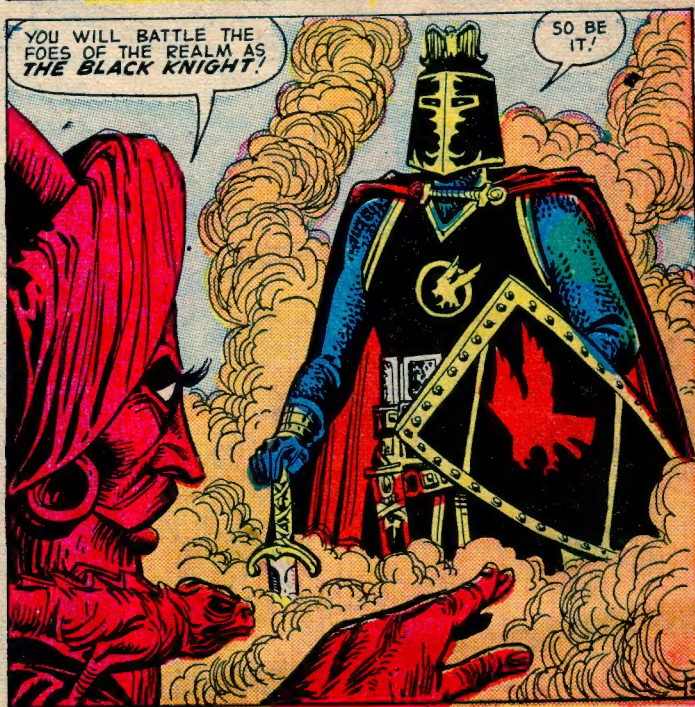
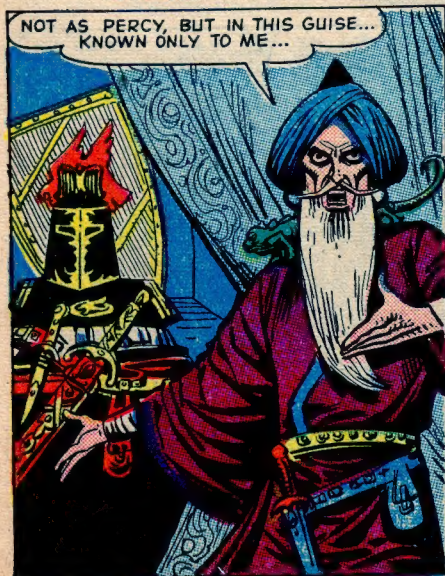
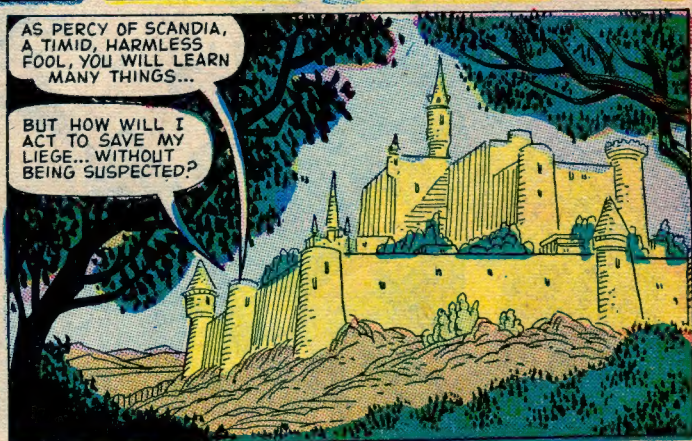
HOW DARK IT IS! FORSOOTH, IT MIGHT GIVE ONE NIGHTMARES!

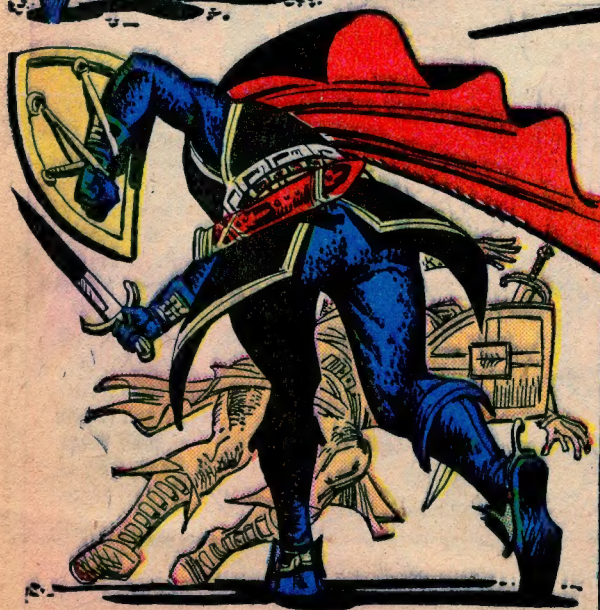
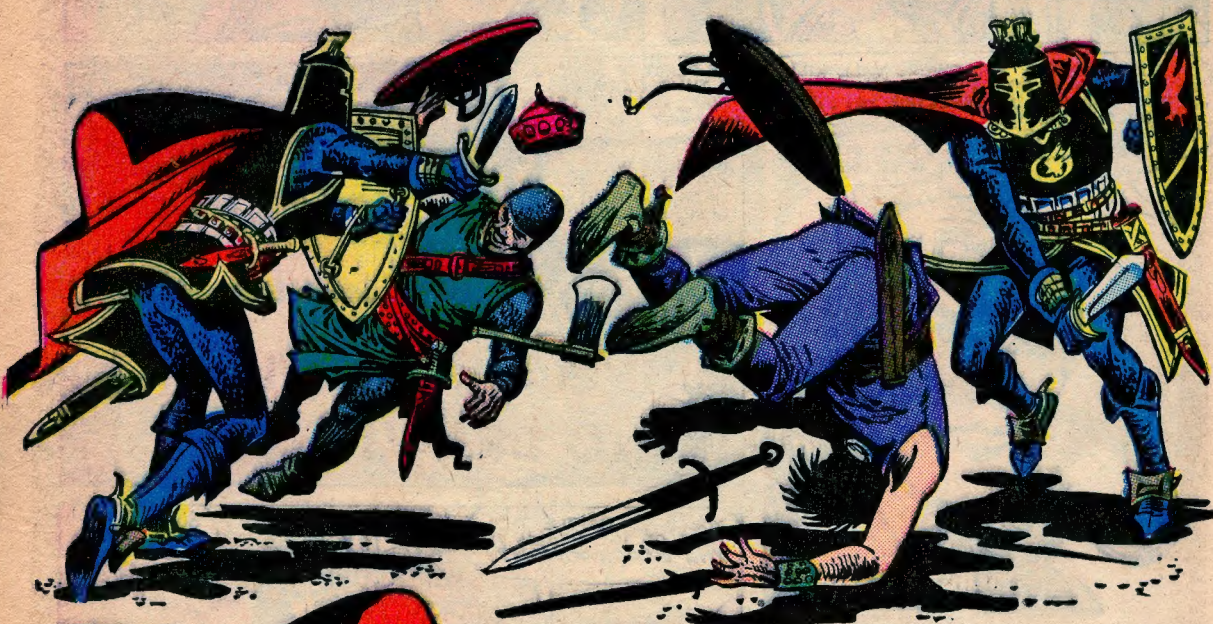
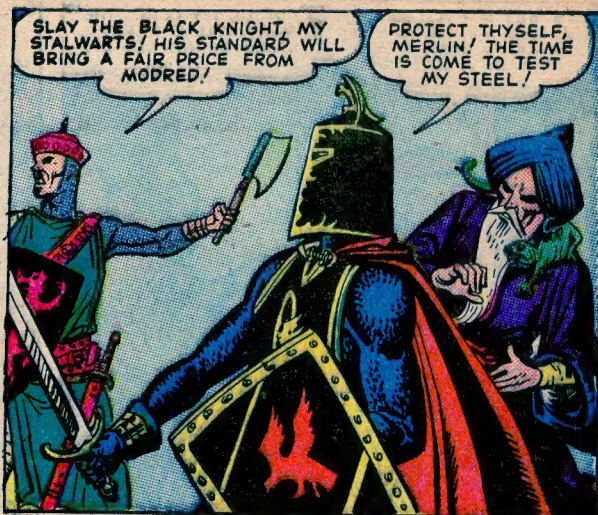


HERE IS YOUR CHAMBER!

MERLIN, ARE WE QUITE ALONE?

YES!







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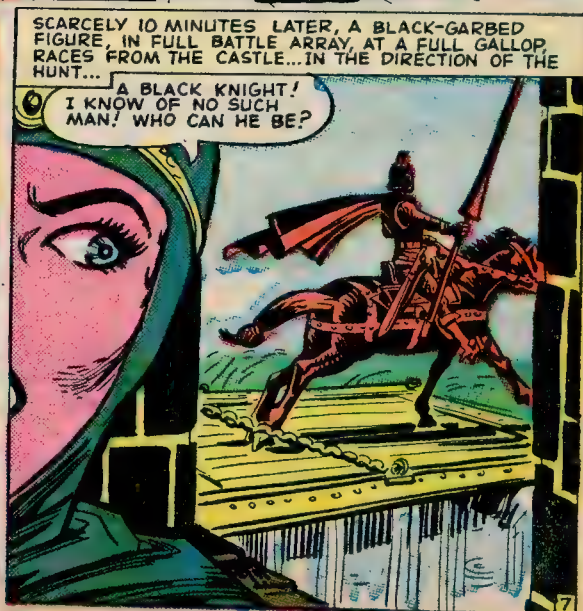
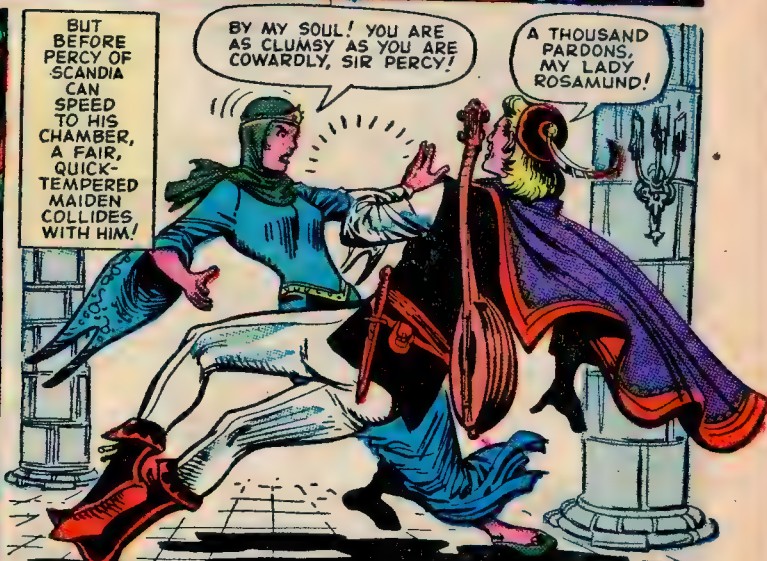
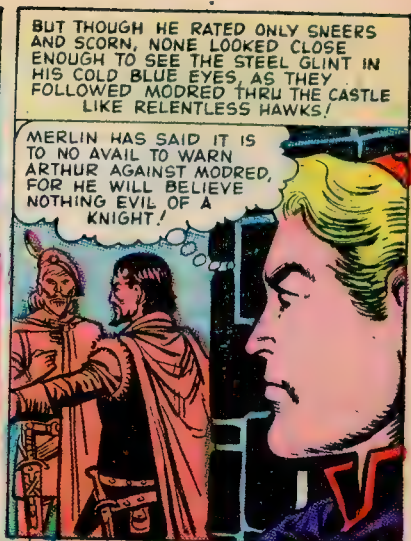
Studio 128-R, Westport, Conn.

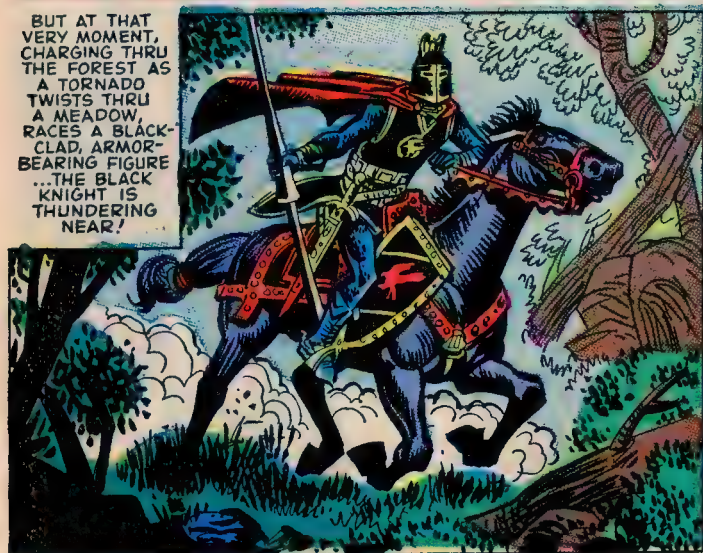
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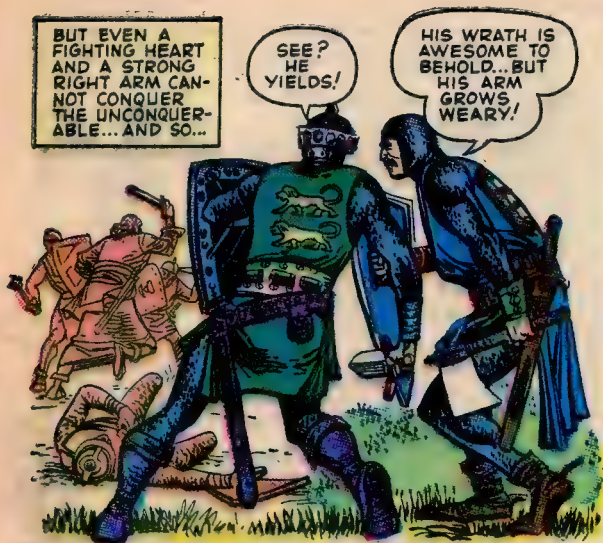
Mr. _____ Age _____
Mrs. _____
Miss _____ (PLEASE PRINT)

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City, Zone, State _____

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Peter Heck
Fred Ludokens
Al Parker
Ben Stahl
Robert Fawcett
Austin Briggs
Dong Kingman
Albert Dorne







BUT EVEN A FIGHTING HEART AND A STRONG RIGHT ARM CANNOT CONQUER THE UNCONQUERABLE... AND SO...

SEE? HE YIELDS!

HIS WRATH IS AWESOME TO BEHOLD... BUT HIS ARM GROWS WEARY!



THEN WITH THE FURY OF A THOUSAND DEMONS... A BLACK-GARBED STORM THUNDERED ON THE SCENE...

TO MY SIDE, SIRE! MY SWORD STRIKES FOR PENDRAGON!



YOU ARE NO KNIGHT OF MY COURT! HOW CALL YOU YOURSELF?

THE BLACK KNIGHT WILL SERVE AS A NAME, SIRE! AS MY LIFE SERVES IN THY BEHALF!



THEIR NERVES SHATTERED BY THE BLACK KNIGHT'S SUDDEN APPEARANCE, THE AMBUSHERS TURNED TAIL AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE FOREST...

SEE, MY LIEGE! THEY FLEE!

LIFT YOUR VISOR, MY LORD! WE WOULD SEE THE FACE OF OUR RESCUER!



YOUR PARDON, PENDRAGON! I HAVE SWORN AN OATH TO REVEAL MYSELF TO NO MAN!

SIRE! WHO THREATENS YOU? I HEARD THE SOUND OF BATTLE!



YOU, SIR!! DARED YOU ATTACK OUR KING? ...YOU DIE!

MODRED, NO!



ANOTHER "BLACK KNIGHT" EPIC FOLLOWS THE NEXT THRILLING TALE!

THE END

EXCALIBUR

THE sound of the lances striking each other, and the quick excitement of the well-trained horses and men brought joy to young Arthur's heart, as he lifted his visor and looked out across the practice field. His eyes sought out the squire master, who had promised he'd watch Arthur well in his training today.

"Yes, well done, Squire Arthur," the master complimented, as he approached him. "Now see if you can dismount without help today. Methinks you will find your armor heavy even for the back of the king's son!"

Arthur's pride at dismounting was soon overshadowed by concern as he asked quickly, "And how fares my father in these last hours?"

"Your good father shows no improvement, my boy," the master explained. "I'm afraid his end is near."

That very night, Arthur received word that his father, the king, was dead. Full of sorrow and in need of comfort and advice, Arthur hurried through the long corridors of the tower and knocked upon the great door of Merlin's chambers. When the wise one opened the door, he placed his hand upon Arthur's shoulder and bade him enter.

"My boy," Merlin began his interview, "I know why you have come. I know the confusion which lies in your heart." He looked earnestly at the boy and deep into his eyes. The sight of this white-bearded man sent fear into Arthur's brave heart. But he had faith in Merlin, as his father had, and now above all was the time when Merlin should show his magical powers and produce a king for England that should lead her well.

Merlin talked long to the youth, questioning him about his prowess with sword and lance, inquiring of his training with horse and armor, asking of his lessons and putting all his knowledge to the test. At the end of the interview Merlin said, "You are young, child, only fifteen years, but you are wise and just. I shall do what is best for you and for England."

The following night, the knights and nobles attended the great meeting that Merlin had called. This was the meeting at which the great man was to announce his choice for the next king of England. All eyes were glued on the robed figure as he arose in their midst and addressed the throng.

"The time has come," Merlin said gravely, "to select the one of us who will have our future in his hands. The fates have told me . . . *Young Arthur* should be your next king!"

After a moment of stunned silence, angry shouts of protest reached Arthur's ears. "Young Arthur, the stripling squire?" "Young Arthur of only fifteen years?" "A mere *boy* to lead England?" "NO! Never shall we submit to this!"

And as Arthur studied the faces of the angry men, he knew that it could never be. "I shall never be king," the lad thought sadly.

Even Merlin was forced to agree that Arthur would never be accepted by the older men as their leader. After hours of argument, Merlin would accept none of the other names as fair and honest leaders. "But *who* shall it be?" the mob questioned eagerly. And as the dawning sun streamed through the high windows, Merlin directed his eyes upward and

spoke with hands upraised. "Give us a sign," he begged the heavens, "Give us a portent! Until we are shown, Britain shall be *without* a true ruler!"

The crowd muttered as it left the chamber, their curiosity and ambition ungratified. But their murmurs were changed to gasps of amazement as they saw at the entrance of the building a large stone, which had not been there before. Thrust through the stone was a sword most marvelous. A sword with jeweled hilt and its sharp edges glittering in the early morning sun. Upon the stone, just beneath the sword was written an inscription, and Merlin read it and turned to the assembled nobles, saying, "This is the mighty sword Excalibur! We have been given this sign. Whosoever can withdraw the sword from the stone shall be the rightful king of England!"

With a cry of delight, the nearest knight sprang to the stone, circled his hands upon the jeweled hilt and desperately tried to withdraw the sword. It would not move. The next noble tried, and the result was the same. Amid shouts, one after another of the royal men had his turn, but in the end, no one could release the mighty weapon from its stony prison.

"So be it!" spoke Merlin. "Until the sword is released, England shall remain as it is today . . . without a king."

The nobles departed, and in the weeks and months that followed, each man tried again to remove the sword without avail. Winter turned to spring, and spring to summer, as ambitious knights came from all over England to prove that they should wear the crown. But time passed,

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...

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The CRUSADER

THE SHIPS OF KING RICHARD, BOUND FOR THE HOLY LAND TO LAUNCH THE CRUSADES, MET VIOLENT STORMS ALONG THE COASTLINE! DURING ONE OF THESE STORMS, SIR JOHN O'DARE'S SHIP WAS SEPARATED FROM THE REST! TORN FROM THE PAGES OF THE MOST COLORFUL ERA OF HISTORY, WE BRING YOU THE STORY OF THAT ILL-FATED SHIP...AND OF THE FABULOUS SARACEN BLADE AND THE MAN WHO WIELDED IT... THE MAN WHO WAS TO BECOME KNOWN AS...*THE CRUSADER*!

AT DAWN OF THE SEVENTH DAY, THE BATTERED SHIP GROUNDED ON EASTERN SHORES...



'TIS THE PLAGUE, SIR JOHN! EVERY MAN ABOARD IS STRICKEN!

I TOO FEEL IT GNAWING AT MY BONES, GERLAINE! WE MUST SET THE TENT ASHORE AND BRING THOSE OF THE MEN STILL ALIVE!



WHILE THE STRICKEN BAND OF KNIGHTS STRUGGLED TO SET THEIR TENT ON THE SHORE, SAVAGE EYES WATCHED THEM FROM THE COVER OF THE BRUSH...



THESE FRANKISH KNIGHTS WILL MAKE EASY CONQUEST! WHAT THINK YOU, EL ALEMAIN?

NAY! THESE ARE SICK MEN! IT IS NOT HONORABLE THAT WE STRIKE THEM DOWN IN THEIR INFIRMITY!

IT WAS AN ILL DAY WE MET WITH THIS BAND OF SAVAGES!

TENGA KHAN COVETS MY SARACEN BLADE! HE KNOWS THE LEGEND THAT THE WIELDER IS SAID TO BE INVULNERABLE!

BY THE PROPHET'S BEARD, IN YOUR HANDS IT **HAS** BEEN A THING OF POWER, EL ALEMAIN, NOBLEST OF SARACENS!

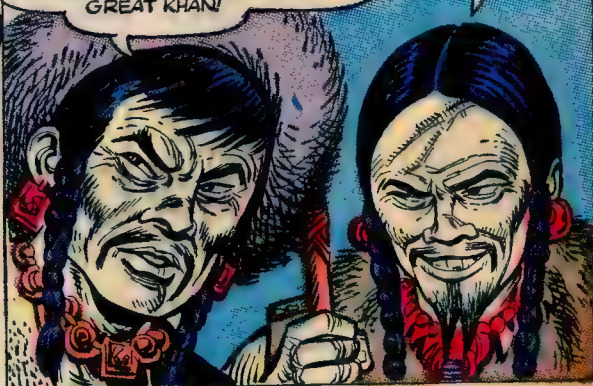


THIS AMULET FROM MY LONG-DEAD MOTHER, AND THIS BLADE WHICH I WON IN THE LISTS AT EL BAKAR, ARE MY MOST VALUED POSSESSIONS!



I DO NOT TRUST THE SARACEN! 'TIS SAID HIS MOTHER WAS A FAIR FRANKISH WOMAN! AND THE SARACEN BLADE... I **MUST** HAVE IT, FOR WITH IT, I CAN FIGHT MY WAY TO LEADERSHIP OF ALL THE EASTERN WARRIORS AND BECOME THE GREAT KHAN!

IF WE MOUNTED, PRETENDING TO LEAVE, **HE** WOULD MOUNT! THEN A THRUST DURING THE FRAY!



PRETENDING TO WITHDRAW, THE MONGOLS MOUNTED THEIR SHAGGY PONIES, AND THE SARACENS, PLEASED THAT NO DISHONOR WOULD COME OF THIS MEETING, MOUNTED THEIR RESTIVE ARABS! THEN...

FORWARD, MY WOLVES!



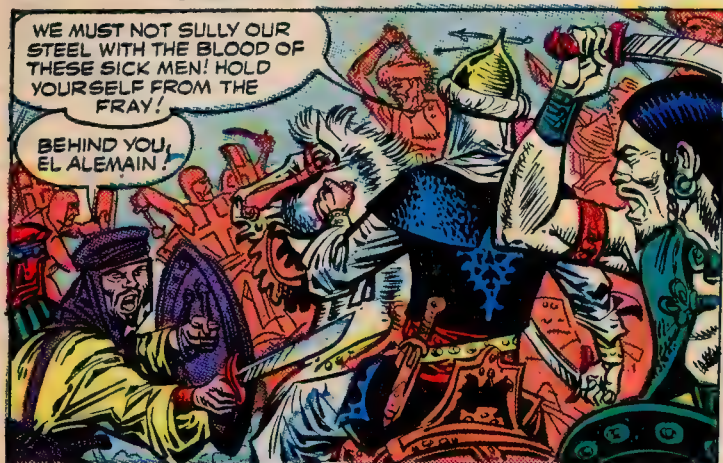
THE MOUNTS OF THE SARACENS, CAUGHT IN THE CHARGE, WERE SWEEPED FORWARD IN THE ATTACK ON THE DYING CRUSADERS!

THIS IS FOUL TRICKERY! GUARD YOUR BACKS AGAINST OUR ALLY'S STEEL!



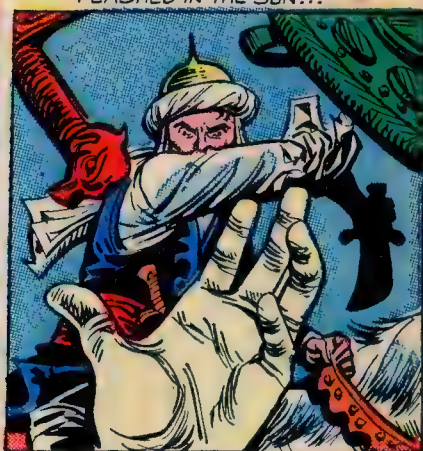
THEN, IN THE CHAOS OF ATTACK, THE ASSASSIN'S BLADE WAS THRUST TOWARD THE SARACEN'S BACK...

THE NOBLE WHIRLED, LIKE A STREAK OF LIGHTNING, THE SARACEN BLADE FLASHED IN THE SUN...



WE MUST NOT SULLY OUR STEEL WITH THE BLOOD OF THESE SICK MEN! HOLD YOURSELF FROM THE FRAY!

BEHIND YOU, EL ALEMAIN!



BACK, FOOLS! THERE IS PLAGUE HERE!

PLAGUE!

LIKE THUNDER, THE DREAD WORD ROLLED THRU THE MONGOL RANKS! THEN, THE SAVAGE HORDE TURNED AND RACED AWAY!



WE NEED NOT COME CLOSE! WE CAN DESTROY THEM WITH ARROWS FROM HERE! BOW-MEN, PREPARE TO LOOSE YOUR SHAFTS!

STOP! I FORBID THIS SLAUGHTER OF NOBLE KNIGHTS! THEY WARNED US, THOUGH WE ARE ENEMIES, OF THE PLAGUE AMONGST THEM!

ALL ISLAM KNOWS OF YOUR FRANKISH BLOOD, AND NOW YOU PROVE YOUR SYMPATHIES! I LEAD HERE!

I CHALLENGE YOU TO PRIVATE COMBAT, TO REVENGE YOUR ATTEMPT UPON MY LIFE! ON THE OUTCOME SHALL LIE THE FATE OF YON KNIGHTS!





BEFORE THE SICK EYES OF THE ENGLISH KNIGHTS, THE SIGNAL WAS GIVEN! A SHOUT, THE DRUMMING OF EAGER HORSES, AND THE SARACEN AND THE MONGOL SPED TOWARD EACH OTHER!



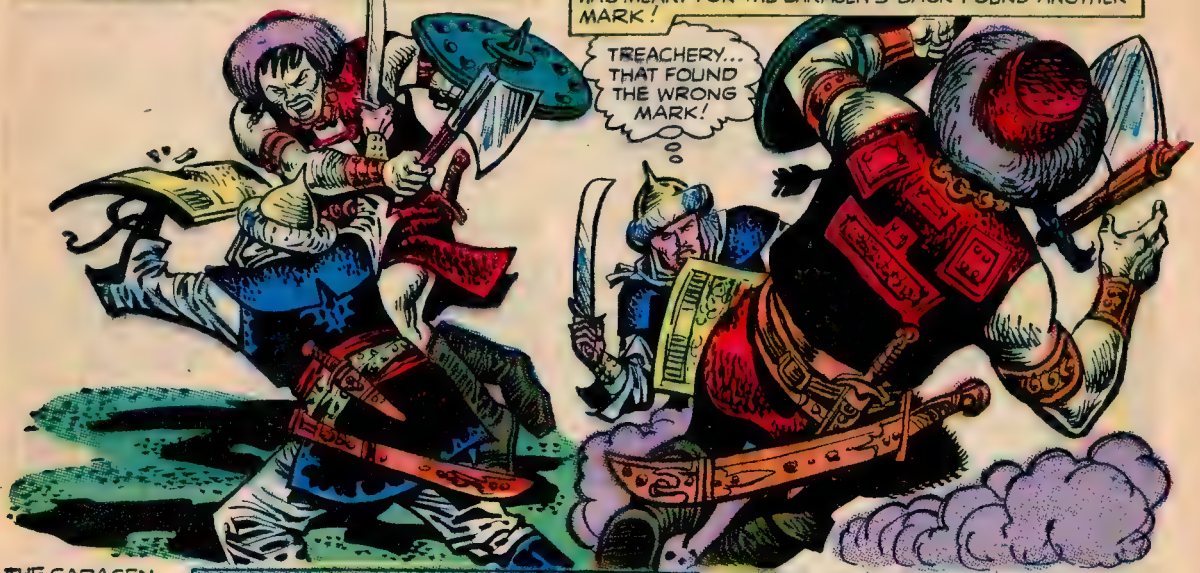
THE THRUST OF THE SARACEN SMASHED THE MONGOL OFF HIS HORSE, TO THE EARTH! WITH ONE THRUST OF HIS SPEAR, HE COULD HAVE THEN FINISHED THE CONTEST.



THE GREAT AXE WHIRLED IN THE MONGOL'S HAND!
THE SARACEN BLADE SANG...

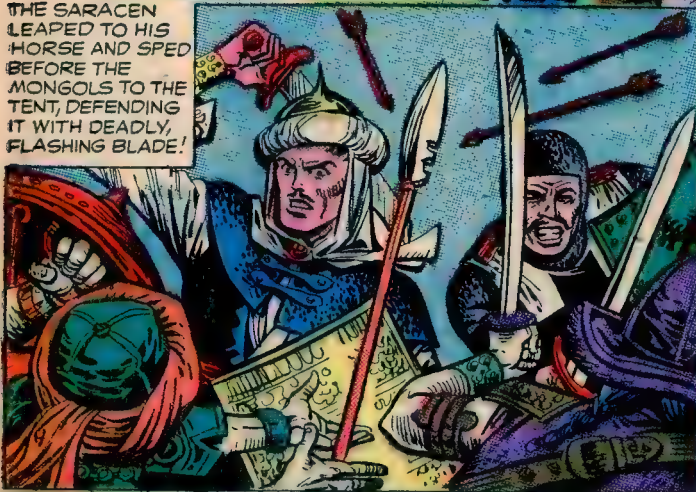
LIKE A WOUNDED BULL, THE MONGOL TURNED! IN A
FLASHING SECOND, THEY WHIRLED...AND THE BOLT WHICH
WAS MEANT FOR THE SARACEN'S BACK FOUND ANOTHER
MARK!

TREACHERY...
THAT FOUND
THE WRONG
MARK!



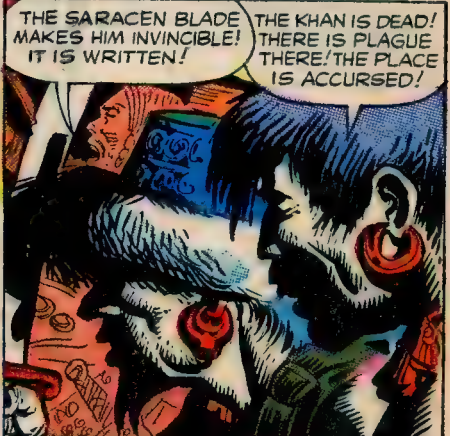
THE SARACEN
LEAPED TO HIS
HORSE AND SPED
BEFORE THE
MONGOLS TO THE
TENT, DEFENDING
IT WITH DEADLY,
FLASHING BLADE!

BEFORE THAT BITING BLADE, THE MONGOLS,
LEADERLESS, NOW, FELL BACK...



THE SARACEN BLADE
MAKES HIM INVINCIBLE!
IT IS WRITTEN!

THE KHAN IS DEAD!
THERE IS PLAGUE
THERE! THE PLACE
IS ACCURSED!



THAT AMULET...WORN BY MY MOTHER
WHEN SHE WAS CAPTURED BY THE
SARACENS! YOU ARE HER SON...**MY
BROTHER!** I AM DYING! TAKE MY
ROBES AND ARMOR, FIND AND JOIN
KING RICHARD AND AID HIM IN
HIS CAUSE, WITH YOUR SARACEN
BLADE, FOR THE SAKE OF
OUR NOBLE BLOOD!

THIS THEN IS WHY
MY HEART HAS
NEVER BEEN WITH
MY PEOPLE IN THIS
STRUGGLE! HOW
STRANGE IS THE
FATE THAT WEAVES
MEN'S DESTINIES!

HIS HEART FILLED
WITH STRANGE
EMOTIONS, THE MAN
WHO HAD BEEN EL
ALEMAIN DONNED
THE ARMOR OF
HIS BROTHER, SIR
JOHN!



GOOD-BYE,
NOBLE KNIGHT!
FAREWELL...
CRUSADER!



THUS, ON THAT FIELD WAS BORN THE KNIGHT WHOSE NAME
WAS TO BECOME EMBLAZONED IN LETTERS OF FIRE
THROUGHOUT THE CHRISTIAN AND ISLAMIC WORLD...
THE CRUSADER!

NEXT ISSUE-- THE CRUSADER STRIKES AGAIN! DON'T MISS IT!

THE END

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13. If You Believe
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7. Lady of Spain
8. Keep it A Secret
9. Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me
10. Why Don't You Believe Me
11. Till I Waltz Again With You
12. Don't Let The Stars Get in Your Eyes
13. Trying
14. Even Now
15. Glow Worm
16. Have You Heard
17. Side By Side
18. Oh Happy Day

and with the coming of Autumn, still no one had been found who could draw the sword from the stone.

The time finally came for the annual tournament, at which all the knights would joust and battle for honors and bravery. Young Arthur, still a squire, was serving his foster-brother Sir Kay, who had already earned his knighthood. As he was preparing Sir Kay for the first tourney, he glanced about beneath the flags and shields. "Is there no one?" he asked himself, "... no one to serve the cause of Britain bravely and surely and to carry on my father's rule?"

Arthur was hoping to find a brave knight that day, and with concern he watched Sir Kay enter the lists for the first engagement. As the two knights approached each other, swords upraised, shields ready, he thrilled to the excitement and expectation.

At the first blow, Kay struck his opponent's shield, then successfully warded off the other's blow by blocking it with his sword. As steel sparked against steel, a loud crash was heard, and Arthur saw Sir Kay's sword fall to the ground in two pieces.

The two opponents parted, the battle was delayed. Sir Kay turned his horse and returned to Arthur shouting, "Run, lad. Run to the castle and get me a sword. Hurry, lest I should lose the encounter entirely."

Arthur jumped to his mount and sped across the fields toward the castle. He crossed the moat and reined his horse in the inner courtyard, leaped from his back, and ran up the stone steps in search of a weapon. He hurried from room to room, hunting, but he could find no sword. There was no one to ask, no one to help, for they were all at the tournament, and Arthur was forced to leave the castle empty-handed.

"What will he say to me when I return with nothing?" he asked himself. "And what shall I say

to myself at losing the honor of my family?"

Arthur was lost in despair, when he strayed from his path and saw the fair sword piercing the stone. He stopped quickly, dismounted and approached it. Arthur grasped the hilt of the sword firmly, and without effort, drew it easily from its resting place. Smiling now, he mounted and galloped toward the waving flags and shouts of the tournament.

When he approached Sir Kay, he took the sword, laid it across his arms and explained, "It is not your sword, Sir Kay, but it is a fine one." Kay took the weapon hurriedly, examined it carefully, then gasped, "Excalibur! It is the sword of the King!" He looked



into Arthur's eyes and asked, "Where did you get this sword?" Arthur answered, "I removed it from a stone, over there," and he pointed to the place where Merlin had first made his pronouncement.

Sir Kay rushed the boy into his tent where no one could overhear and he threatened, "Not a word, do you hear? Do not say a word of this to anyone." Sir Kay rushed from his tent, approached the middle of the field and signaled for silence. He raised the sword so all could see and shouted one word, "Excalibur!"

The audience gasped and left their seats, thronging around Sir Kay and the kingly treasure he held. Kay turned to Merlin, still

seated, and spoke. "Merlin . . . now will you pronounce me king? I have the proof of my legacy here. Excalibur!"

Merlin arose and made his way through the crowds until he stood at Sir Kay's side. He examined the sword carefully, and then confessed, "It is the sword." He turned to the people. "Sir Kay possesses Excalibur, but," he added, "if Sir Kay withdrew it from the stone truly, the sword shall be replaced and Sir Kay shall remove it yet another time before the eyes of all men."

Before the assembly who had gathered at the stone, Merlin replaced Excalibur once again into its stony sheath. Before all their eyes, Sir Kay grasped the handle again and gave it a mighty pull. He strained until the mail around his arm was taut, but still the sword remained. The knights and nobles looked at him angrily as he tugged and pulled at the sword. Finally, he admitted defeat. "I cannot!" he said.

Merlin asked, "By what means did this come to your hands?"

Sir Kay, his heart beset with the evils of ambition and power, turned with jealousy upon the young Arthur. "It is magic," he shouted.

Merlin saw young Arthur, his golden hair shining in the sun and he said quietly, "Go, my son! Get the sword!"

Arthur stepped quickly to the stone, and once again with ease, in front of the staring noblemen, extracted the sword. He pulled it from the stone, tenderly grasped its handle, and walked slowly to Merlin.

"This is Excalibur," he said, and he turned to the crowd. "In the memory of my father, I shall use this sword, for the cause of right and honesty . . . and for England."

And the shouts were heard across the land. "Long live the noble king of the Britons. Long live King Arthur!"

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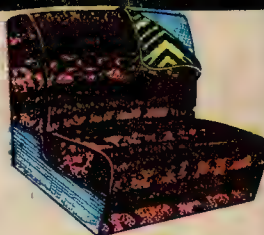
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Black Thnight



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NO SOONER HAD THE SUN AROSE,
THAN THE STARTLED CRY RANG THRU
CAMELOT...

OUR KING
IS GONE!

Stinson
&
Sot
Marechal

LANCELOT WAS FIRST TO REACH THE DOOR OF HIS BELOVED MONARCH! HIS MIGHTY SWORD DRAWN, HE THUNDERED INTO THE REGAL CHAMBERS!



STUNNED AND SHOCKED BEYOND MEASURE, THE INHABITANTS OF CAMELOT RAN THRU THE CORRIDORS, SEEKING... BUT IN VAIN...



THEN, ONE VOICE WAS RAISED ABOVE THE PANIC AND TUMULT... ONE CALM, STRONG VOICE! THE VOICE OF MODRED, NEPHEW OF ARTHUR!

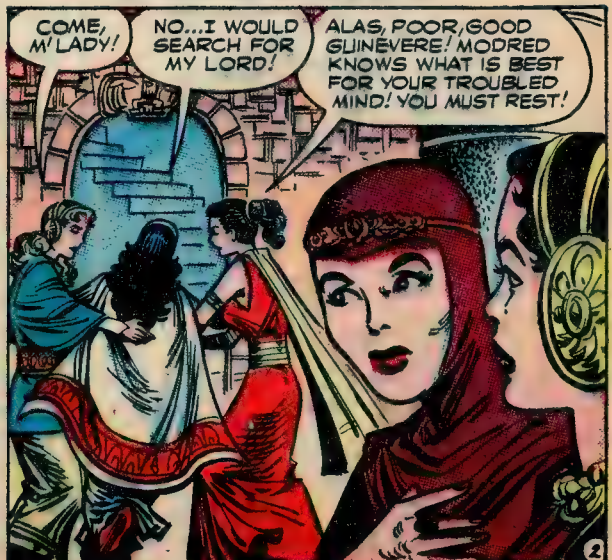
IT HAPPENED AS QUICKLY AS A LANCE'S THRUST... AS SMOOTHLY AS A COURTIER'S BOW! IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, MODRED OF THE NORTHERN ISLES WAS SITTING IN THE THRONE OF ARTHUR PENDRAGON!



ONLY *ONE* DARED PROTEST...

HOW DARE YOU SIT ON THE THRONE OF ARTHUR? AND *YOU*, IN THE SEAT WHICH IS RIGHTFULLY MINE?

AND SO IT CAME TO PASS THAT NONE WERE LEFT TO OPPOSE MODRED THE EVIL...



THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE WERE TOO BUSY WITH THE SEARCH, TO CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH PALACE INTRIGUE...



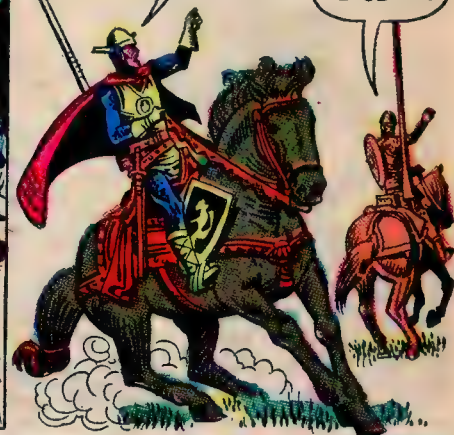
GAWAIN WILL TAKE THE SOUTHERN TRAIL...

AND YOU THE NORTHERN ROUTE, LANCELOT!

GALAHAD RIDES TO THE WEST!

GODSPEED, GOOD KNIGHTS! MAY WE RETURN WITH OUR KING...OR NOT AT ALL!

HOLA! FOR ARTHUR AND ENGLAND!



IN ALL CAMELOT, ONLY TWO MEN SUSPECTED THE **REAL** REASON OF ARTHUR'S DISAPPEARANCE! ONE WAS PERCY OF SCANDIA...



MY HEART IS HEAVY TO SAY IT, MY LORDS, BUT I FEAR ARTHUR HAS DESERTED HIS PEOPLE!

YOU LIE! ARTHUR WOULD **NEVER** DESERT ENGLAND!



HOW **DARE** YOU SPEAK THUS TO MODRED!

MY LORD! I AM UNARMED!

BE THANKFUL YOU ARE, MY KINSMAN! ELSE YOUR PUNISHMENT MIGHT BE MORE SEVERE! NOW LEAVE MY SIGHT, YOU SPINELESS LACK-A-DAY!

THE OTHER MAN WHOSE EYES AND EARS WERE NOT DECEIVED BY MODRED, WAS MERLIN THE WISE!



NONE BUT MYSELF WILL EVER KNOW WHAT COURAGE IT TOOK FOR YOU NOT TO FORSAKE YOUR ROLE AS A WEAKLING, MY SON!

I'LL FEEL THE STING OF MODRED'S GLOVE TILL THE DAY I AVENGE THAT INSULT!



FORGET MODRED, PERCY OF SCANDIA! DON YOUR KNIGHTLY ATTIRE, FOR YOU SHALL SOON CROSS SWORDS TO SAVE YOUR KING!

HOW NOW! YOU KNOW WHERE ARTHUR IS?



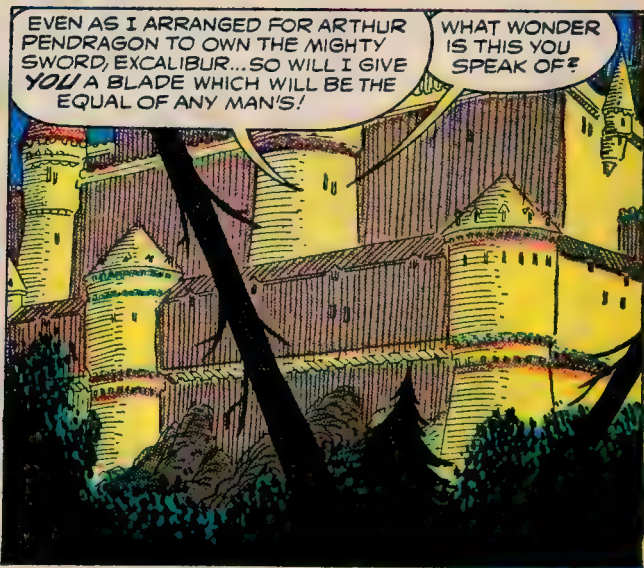
FEW ARE THE SECRETS WHICH MY GLASS CANNOT REVEAL! SEE? EVEN NOW THE FORM OF ARTHUR TAKES SHAPE IN A DUNGEON IN THIS VERY CASTLE!

THE EVIL MODRED HAS ORDERED HIM IMPRISONED, TO STEAL HIS THRONE FROM HIM!



LET ME FIND HIM, GOOD MERLIN! MY SWORD SHALL SET HIM FREE, THO' AN ARMY BARS MY WAY!

STAY... ONE MORE WORD HAVE I!



EVEN AS I ARRANGED FOR ARTHUR PENDRAGON TO OWN THE MIGHTY SWORD, EXCALIBUR... SO WILL I GIVE YOU A BLADE WHICH WILL BE THE EQUAL OF ANY MAN'S!

WHAT WONDER IS THIS YOU SPEAK OF?

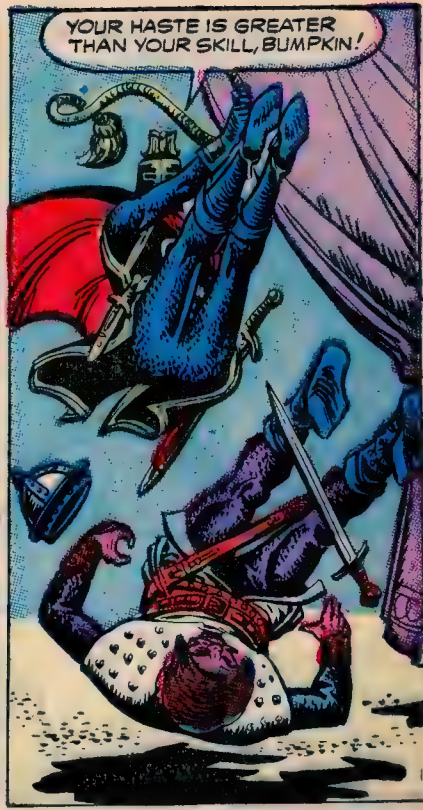
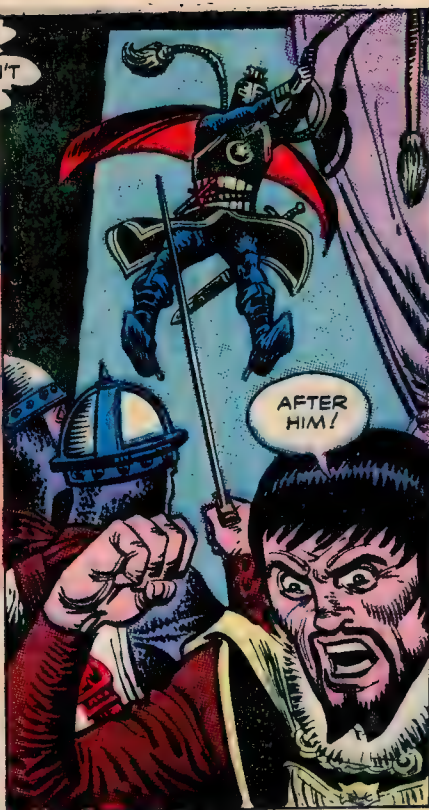


IT IS THE WONDER OF MERLIN'S MAGIC! HO, **BLACK KNIGHT**... YOUR SWORD IS EVERMORE THE **BLACK BLADE**! NOTHING MADE BY MORTAL MAN SHALL RESIST IT!

IT HAS TURNED BLACK AS EBONY!



NOW GO, BLACK KNIGHT! YOUR SOVEREIGN... AND BRITAIN... DEPEND ON YOUR VALOR!



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32 pages & many illustrations. With approvals. Send 3c postage.
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The amazingly effective Vacutex extracts Blackheads automatically—WITHOUT squeezing the skin or injuring tissues. Easy to use with three fingers. It reaches Blackheads anywhere. Try it 12 days and if not delighted, return VACUTEX and your money will be refunded.

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☐ Enclosed find \$1. Send postpaid.
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SORRY, NO C. O. D.'s OUTSIDE U. S. A.

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15 selected old-timers. Each 50 or more years old. Most of 'em missing in even the biggest collections! Get all 15 of these unusual classics for less than 1¢ each. All for just 1¢! With your request for approvals.
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FREE MINT BRITISH COLONIES!

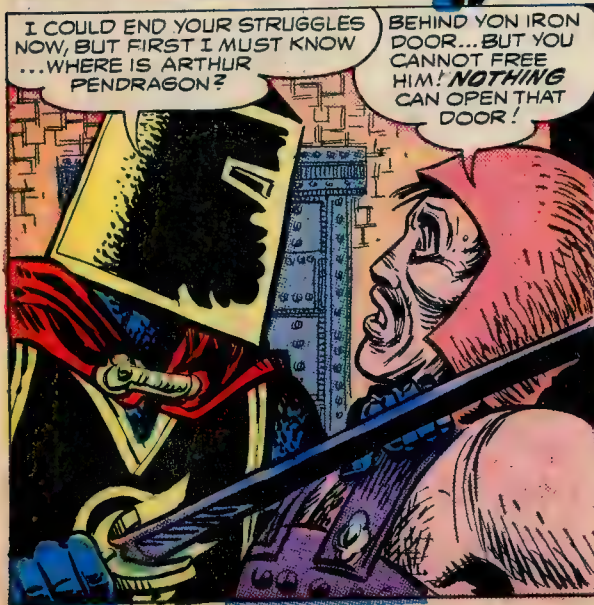
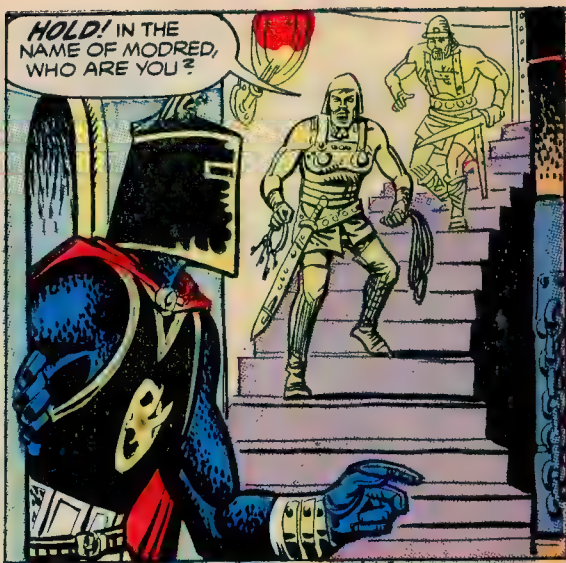
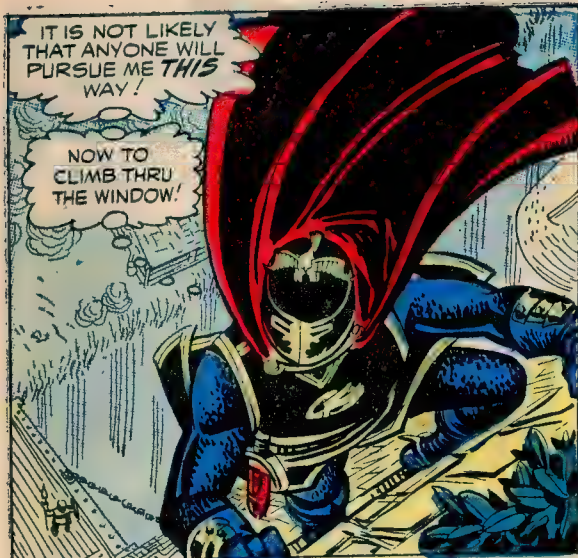
Mint British Colonies from Brunel, Seychelles, Papua, New Guinea, Caymans, Gilbert Ellice, Sarawak, Dominica—**FREE** with approvals!
Viking, 11-J Northern Blvd., Great Neck, N.Y.

SONG POEMS WANTED

Send your poems for **free** examination
PHONOGRAPH RECORDS MADE
FIVE STAR MUSIC MASTERS, 82 BEACON BLVD., BOSTON, MASS.

New Catalog of 3000 Novelties

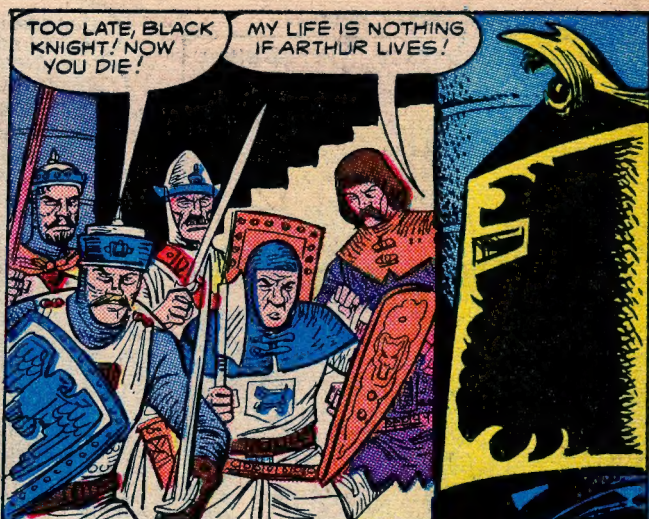
Send 10c for amazing catalog of novelties: dolls, live animals, fan makers, hobbies, planes & boats, joke articles, magic tricks, unusual songs, gadget, time-savers, cameras, optical goods, projectors, movies, jewelry, disguises, stamps, name puzzles, auto & bike accessories, radios, banks, money's gadgets, artists' supplies, printing sets, motors, billboards, knives, guns, sports, books, music, scientific supplies, plants, fireworks, etc. Rush 10c now!
Johnson Smith Co., Dept. 879, Detroit 7, Mich





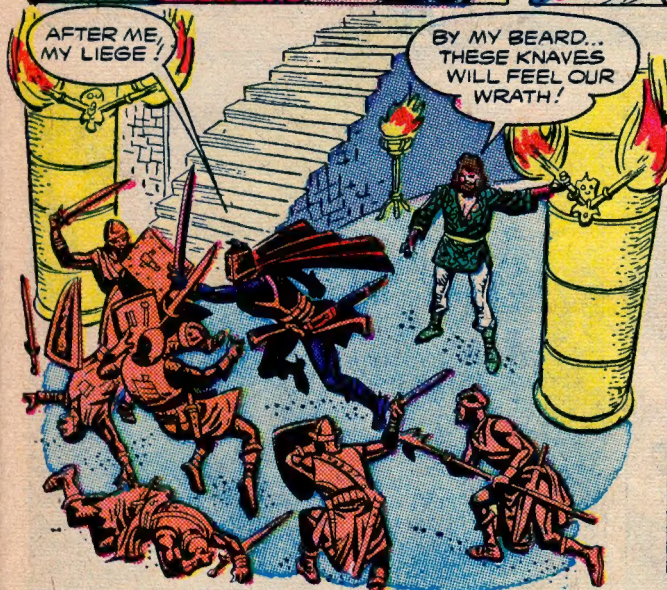
BLACK KNIGHT!

SIRE! I HEAR YOUR CAPTORS COMING... WE HAVE NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE!



TOO LATE, BLACK KNIGHT! NOW YOU DIE!

MY LIFE IS NOTHING IF ARTHUR LIVES!



AFTER ME, MY LIEGE!

BY MY BEARD... THESE KNAVES WILL FEEL OUR WRATH!

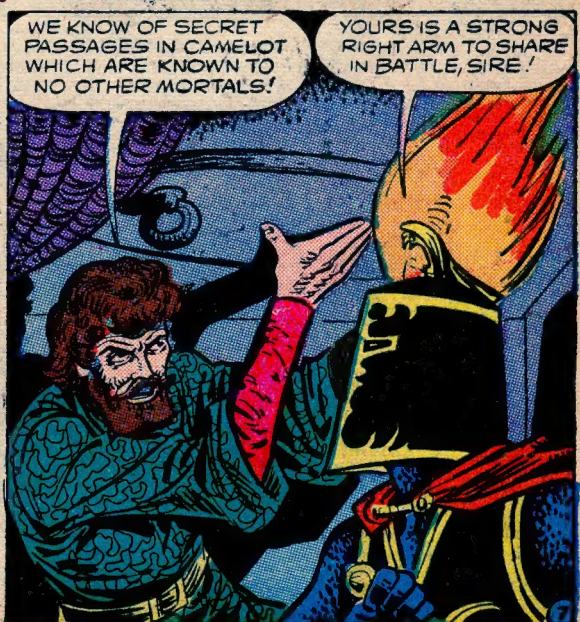


HEAR OUR WORD... WHOSOEVER HARMS THE BLACK KNIGHT, ANSWERS TO ARTHUR PENDRAGON!



QUICK, SIR KNIGHT! IN HERE!

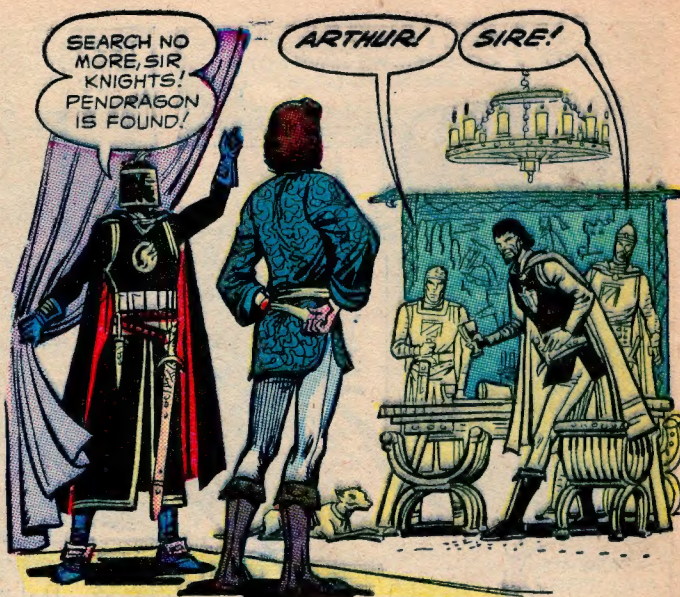
AFTER YOU, SIRE!



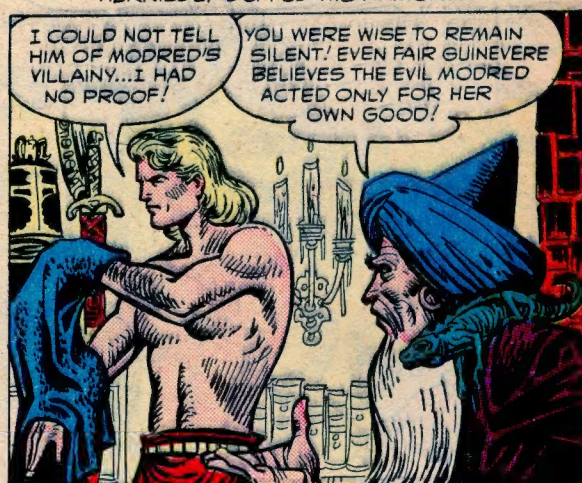
WE KNOW OF SECRET PASSAGES IN CAMELOT WHICH ARE KNOWN TO NO OTHER MORTALS!

YOURS IS A STRONG RIGHT ARM TO SHARE IN BATTLE, SIRE!

LATER, IN THE GREAT HALL...



IN A SECLUDED CHAMBER, THE BLACK KNIGHT HURRIEDLY DOFFED HIS ARMOR...



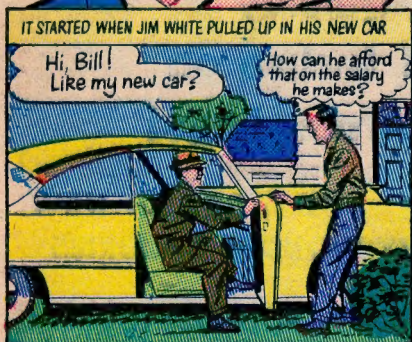
NEXT ISSUE! BLACK KNIGHT IN "THE TOURNAMENT OF DOOM!"



How I Made a Small Fortune In Spare Time!

(WITHOUT SPENDING A PENNY)

The TRUE STORY of William Bergstrom of Illinois



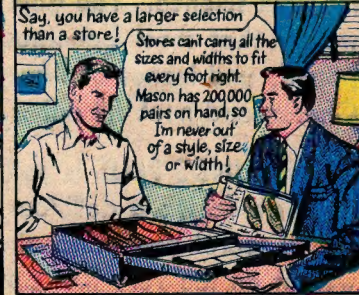
Jim told me Mason sends a Selling Outfit FREE and shows how to make MONEY So I mailed a coupon. My wife was thrilled:



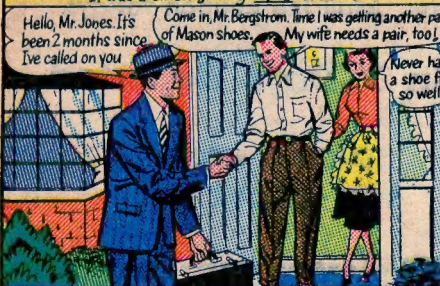
I started with friends, relatives, people where I worked. EVERYBODY wants comfortable shoes!



Soon the Mason people sent me actual sample shoes, and sales came faster than ever!



My spare-time business grew by leaps and bounds. It was a cinch getting repeat orders!



I soon had a business that brought me over \$3,000 EXTRA a year, plus exciting prizes. I found real security!



**Mail Coupon
For YOUR
FREE
Money-Making
Outfit!**

What would YOU do with \$3,000 EXTRA income a year? Thousands of men are making handsome extra incomes with Mason Shoe. You don't invest one cent...ever. You need no experience. We'll send you a complete Starting Outfit FREE! It features handsome line of over 175 styles in smart dress shoes, sporty casuals and fast-selling work shoes...and includes 10-second Air Cushion demonstrator, Measuring equipment, Money-making booklet, National ads...EVERYTHING you need to start making big money from your first hour!

If you want to give yourself a raise every month—with a steady-profit repeat-order business...if you want to be your own boss...just rush this coupon TODAY to Mason Shoe Mfg. Co., Dept. MA604, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. You'll receive your powerful FREE SALES OUTFIT right away!

Mr. Ned Mason, Dept. MA604
Mason Shoe Mfg. Co.
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

You bet I want to start making a small fortune in spare time! Rush my FREE SELLING OUTFIT with everything I need to start making money my first hour!

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
Town _____ State _____

GAIN WEIGHT IN 7 DAYS OR DON'T PAY!

**Amazing New Easy Way Quickly
Puts Appealing Pounds and Inches on
Your SKINNY Body, Chest, Arms, Legs!**

**NOT A MEDICINE! NOT JUST VITAMINS! BUT A BRAND NEW
CONCENTRATED FOOD WITH EASY TO DIGEST WONDER CALORIES**

You, too, can start putting weight on the first day with the POUNDS PLUS plan! Thousands now gain who never thought they could with this amazing discovery of medical science. You gain 2, 4, as much as 7 pounds in a week, until you reach the weight that most becomes you . . . so quickly, it's a cinch. Scrawny figures gain pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh on body, chest, arms, legs, thighs, ankles. Cheeks and neck fill out . . . wherever you need it.

POUNDS PLUS is entirely safe, no drugs, no fish oils . . . is not merely vitamins . . . Instead it's a delicious pleasant-tasting tablet jam-packed with wonder calories . . . a secret new concentrated food formula that also aids digestion, starts putting weight on the very first day. POUNDS PLUS plan also stimulates the appetite, supplies quick pep and energy, the magic glow of health . . . for men, women, children, convalescents. Don't be skinny, underweight or pepleless. Mail the coupon today!

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Write for professional samples.

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TEST AT OUR RISK

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Pounds Plus Company, Dept. 151 Box 820, New York 17, N. Y.

Send one Package of POUNDS PLUS. I'll pay \$2.98 plus C.O.D. postage on arrival on guarantee that if I am not satisfied with weight gained, I may return the empty package for a full refund. (Cash orders mailed postage prepaid.)

- ☐ Put X here if you want 3 for \$6.00.
- ☐ I enclose payment. You stand charges.
- ☐ Send C.O.D., I will pay postal charges.

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